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TO: Mail Stop: AF
Examiner: Agustin
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FROM: Douglas P. Mueller

OUR REF: 10873.0887USWO

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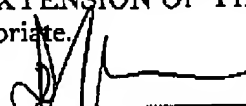
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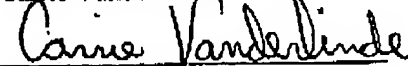
Title of Document: **Response**Applicant: NAKANISHI et al
Serial No.: 10/070,288
App. Filed: February 28, 2002
Group Art No.: 2652

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S/N 10/070,288

PATENTIN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Nakanishi et al	Examiner:	P. Agustin
Serial No.:	10/070,288	Group Art Unit:	2652
Filed:	February 28, 2002	Docket No.:	10873.0887USWO
Title:	OPTICAL ELEMENT, SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE, AND OPTICAL INFORMATION RECORDING DEVICE EMPLOYING THE SAME		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.6(d):

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Name: Carrie Vanderlinde

Mail Stop AF
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RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed January 20, 2006, favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the following remarks.

Claims 1, 2, 9, and 16 were rejected as being anticipated by Yamazaki (US 5,608,695). Applicants traverse this rejection. Claims 1 and 16 require an optical semiconductor device including an emitted beam dividing portion that includes a first, second, and third diffraction grating regions for dividing an emitted light beam from the laser element into a main beam and two sub beams, and a signal-detecting photodetector element that receives a beam obtained by diffracting the reflected light beam of the main beam with the reflected beam dividing portion and then diffracting an obtained zero order diffracted beam with the first diffraction grating region of the emitted beam dividing portion. However, Yamazaki does not disclose a second hologram (28b, the rejection equates to the claimed emitted beam dividing portion) that both